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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/034,398	12/26/2001	Harry G. Skinner	42390P13152	1207

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BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN
12400 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD, SEVENTH FLOOR
LOS ANGELES, CA 90025

EXAMINER	
ODOM, CURTIS B	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2634	

DATE MAILED: 03/24/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/034,398	SKINNER, HARRY G.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Curtis B. Odom	2634	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *02 January 2004* .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-26* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1,7-12,18,19,22,23 and 26* is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *2-6,13-17,20,21,24 and 25* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *26 December 2001* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The following guidelines illustrate the preferred layout for the specification of a utility application. These guidelines are suggested for the applicant's use.

Arrangement of the Specification

As provided in 37 CFR 1.77(b), the specification of a utility application should include the following sections in order. Each of the lettered items should appear in upper case, without underlining or bold type, as a section heading. If no text follows the section heading, the phrase "Not Applicable" should follow the section heading:

(a) TITLE OF THE INVENTION.
(b) CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS.
(c) STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT.
(d) INCORPORATION-BY-REFERENCE OF MATERIAL SUBMITTED ON A COMPACT DISC (See 37 CFR 1.52(e)(5) and MPEP 608.05. Computer program listings (37 CFR 1.96(c)), "Sequence Listings" (37 CFR 1.821(c)), and tables having more than 50 pages of text are permitted to be submitted on compact discs.) or
REFERENCE TO A "MICROFICHE APPENDIX" (See MPEP § 608.05(a). "Microfiche Appendices" were accepted by the Office until March 1, 2001.)
(e) BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION.
(1) Field of the Invention.
(2) Description of Related Art including information disclosed under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
(f) BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION.
(g) BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWING(S).
(h) DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION.
(i) CLAIM OR CLAIMS (commencing on a separate sheet).
(j) ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE (commencing on a separate sheet).
(k) SEQUENCE LISTING (See MPEP § 2424 and 37 CFR 1.821-1.825. A "Sequence Listing" is required on paper if the application discloses a nucleotide or amino acid sequence as defined in 37 CFR 1.821(a) and if the required "Sequence Listing" is not submitted as an electronic document on compact disc).

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: There is no "Brief Summary of the Invention" (see arrangement of specification above).

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1, 7-12, 18, 19, 22, 23, and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Fang (U.S. Patent No. 6, 236, 697).

Regarding claim 1, Fang discloses a system comprising:

clock recovery circuitry (Fig. 3, column 4, line 3-column 5, line 43) to receive a data signal (Fig. 3, element 110) and reference clock signal (Fig. 3, block 311) and in response thereto to produce an in phase clock signal (Fig. 3, element 160) which is in phase with the data signal and mirrors frequency changes in the data signal, wherein the data signal has embedded clock information (Fig. 2, column 3, line 61-column 4, line 2) and a varying frequency (column 7, lines 24-27), wherein multiple frequency data is data of varying frequency; and

a receiving gate (Fig. 1, block 340) to receive the data signal and the in phase clock signal and to gate the data signal in response to the in phase clock signal, wherein the output of

the pulse generator which is inputted to the gate is simply a different form of the input data signal.

Regarding claim 7, which inherits the limitations of claim 1, Fang discloses a local reference source (Fig. 3, block 311, column 4, lines 2-23) to produce the reference clock signal, wherein the clock signal has a constant frequency (column 1, lines 19-21), wherein the oscillator signal has a constant frequency.

Regarding claim 8, which inherits the limitations of claim 1, Fang discloses

a receiving chip (Fig. 3) coupled to the transmitting chip the interconnect, the receiving chip including the clock recovery circuitry and the receiving gate. Fang does not disclose a transmitting chip including a transmitter to produce the data signal to an interconnect in response to a SSC transmitting clock. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that input data signal could have been produced by the transmitter with a SSC transmitting clock. Thus, including a transmitter in a communication system does not constitute patentability.

Regarding claim 9, which inherits the limitations of claim 8, Fang discloses a local reference source (Fig. 3, block 314) to produce the reference clock signal, wherein the clock signal has a constant frequency (wherein the oscillator signal of Fang has a constant frequency), but does not discloses the local reference source is external to the circuit. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that the reference source could have been external to the circuit. An oscillator external to the circuit could have been used to produce a reference signal. Oscillators are well known in the art and thus having the reference source external to the circuit does not constitute patentability.

Regarding claim 10, which inherits the limitations of claim 8, Fang does not disclose the circuit is included in a computer system. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the circuit in a computer system in order to synchronize transmission and reception circuits in the computer.

Regarding claim 11, which inherits the limitations of claim 8, Fang discloses the circuit is included in a communication system (column 1, lines 5-8).

Regarding claim 12, Fang discloses a system comprising:

a receiving gate (Fig. 3, block 340, column 4, line 3-column 5, line 43) to receive the data signal (output from pulse generator) and the in phase clock signal (Fig. 3, element 160) and to gate the data signal in response to the in phase clock signal, wherein the data signal has embedded clock information (Fig. 2, column 3, line 61-column 4, line 2) and a varying frequency (column 7, lines 24-27), wherein multiple frequency data is data of varying frequency; and

clock recovery circuitry (Fig. 3, column 4, line 3-column 5, line 43) to receive a data signal (Fig. 3, element 110) and reference clock signal (Fig. 3, block 211) and in response thereto to produce an in phase clock signal (Fig. 3, element 160) which is in phase with the data signal and mirrors frequency changes in the data signal.

Regarding claim 18, which inherits the limitations of claim 12, Fang et al. discloses

a receiving chip (Fig. 3) coupled to the transmitting chip the interconnect, the receiving chip including the clock recovery circuitry and the receiving gate. Fang et al. does not disclose a transmitting chip including a transmitter to produce the data signal to an interconnect in response to a SSC transmitting clock. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the

art at the time the invention was made that input data signal could have been produced by transmitter with a SSC transmitting clock. Thus, including a transmitter in a communication system does not constitute patentability.

Regarding claims 19 and 22, the claimed device includes features corresponding with the subject matter mentioned in the above rejection of claims 1 and 8 which is applicable hereto.

Regarding claims 23 and 26, the claimed device includes features corresponding with the subject matter mentioned in the above rejection of claims 12 and 18 which is applicable hereto.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 2-6, 13-17, 20, 21, 24 and 25 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if above objections are overcome and rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Curtis B. Odom whose telephone number is 703-305-4097. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday- Friday, 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Chin can be reached on 703-305-4714. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Curtis Odom
March 15, 2004

STEPHEN CHIN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600